

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
PEDESTRIAN WORKING GROUP AND THE
REGIONAL BICYCLE TASK FORCE

Tuesday, September 19, 2006 - 1:30 p.m.
MAG Office Building, Cholla Room
302 North First Avenue, Phoenix

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Tami Ryall, Gilbert, Chair, Regional Bicycle Task Force and Acting Chair of the Pedestrian Working Group	Farhad Tavassoli, Goodyear
Bruce Meyers, ADOA Gen. Services	*Michael Cartsonis, Litchfield Park
Michael Sanders, ADOT	Peggy Rubach, Maricopa County
Brian Fellows, ADOT	Mitch Foy, Mesa
Michael Eagan, ASLA, Arizona Chapter	Brandon Forrey, Peoria
Kelly LaRosa for Janeen Gaskins, Avondale	Katherine Coles, Phoenix
Thomas Chlebanowski, Buckeye	Srinivas Goundla, Phoenix
Michael Normand, Chandler	Randi Alcott, RPTA
*Bill Lazenby, Coalition of Arizona Bicyclists	Dawn Coomer, Scottsdale
*Mark Smith, El Mirage	*Reed Kempton, Scottsdale
Steve Hancock, Glendale	Eric Iwersen, Tempe
	Hobart Wingard for Gary Norris, Surprise

*Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

^Attended via audio-conference

OTHERS PRESENT

Irene Morgan, Wickenburg
Barb Kirkland, Avondale
Caryn Logan Heaps, A Dye Design
Lynn Timmons, Phoenix
Randy Harrell, Fountain Hills

1. Call to Order

Tami Ryall called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. Approval of the July 18, 2006 Meeting Minutes of the Pedestrian Working Group and the Regional Bicycle Task Force

Peggy Rubach moved to approve and Mitch Foy seconded the move to approve the meeting minutes of the Bicycle Task Force and Pedestrian Working Group for July 18, 2006. The motion passed unanimously.

Tami Ryall introduced the following new members:

Thomas Chelbanowski from Buckeye
Brian Fellows, ADOT
Hobart Wingard, Surprise
Brandon Forrey, Peoria

The committee bid farewell to Karen Flores who has served for many years. Her voice of reason and passion for the issues were appreciated.

3. Call to the Audience

An opportunity was provided to members of the public to address the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group on items not scheduled on the agenda that fall under the jurisdiction of MAG, or on items on the agenda for discussion but not for action. Members of the public were requested not to exceed a three minute time period for their comments. A total of 15 minutes was provided for the Call to the Audience agenda item, unless the Bicycle Task Force and the Pedestrian Working Group requests an exception to this limit. Please note that those wishing to comment on action agenda items were given an opportunity at the time the item was heard.

There were no members of the public present.

4. Staff and Member Agency Reports

Brian Fellows reported that there were state-wide conference calls involving people interested in the state Safe Routes to School program last month. A call for applications will be put forward in the next eight weeks.

5. Design Assistance On-Call Consultant List

In May, 2006 the Regional Council approved \$200,000 for the Pedestrian Design Assistance Program and \$300,000 for the Bicycle/Shared-Use Design Assistance program for the 2007 Unified Work Program beginning on July 1, 2006. A request for consultants to submit Statements of Qualifications was sent out in early July and submittals were received at MAG on July 31, 2006. The subcommittee, consisting of Peggy Rubach, Bill Lazenby, Tami Ryall, Catherine Coles and Dawn Coomer reviewed the applications and presented their list of recommended consultants for the On-Call Consultant List for committee approval. The consultants recommended are:

- A Dye Design
- e group
- HDR Engineering, Inc.
- J2 Engineering and Environmental Design
- Otak
- Sherman Group, Inc.

Catherine Coles moved to accept the proposed list of consultants for approval and Peggy Rubach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

6. Approval of City of Mesa Switching Federally Funded Projects in the TIP

The City of Mesa wishes to delay two TIP projects, and in exchange, move another project forward in the TIP. There is no financial consequence to this request. These are the desired changes:

- Move back project MES07-314 South Canal: Val Vista Dr. to Greenfield Rd from 2006-2007 to 2009-2010. This project has \$541,800 in CMAQ funds associated with it.
- Move back project MES06-203 Pepper Place: Lewis St to Robson St. This project has \$381,401 in CMAQ funds associated with it.
- Move up project MES10-608 South Canal: McDowell Rd to Val Vista Dr from 2009-2010 to 2006-2007. This project has \$852,505 in CMAQ funds associated with it.

Mitch Foy explained that Mesa would like to move around three projects in the TIP. The city would like to do the projects in consecutive order. Peggy Rubach recommended approval and the motion was seconded by Michael Normand. The committee unanimously recommended approval of the requested changes and recommended that the Transportation Improvement Program be amended as appropriate.

7. Pedestrian and Bicycle Design Assistance Program

In May, 2006 the Regional Council approved \$200,000 for the Pedestrian Design Assistance Program and \$300,000 for the Bicycle/Shared-Use Design Assistance program for the 2007 Unified Work Program beginning on July 1, 2006. Ten project applications were received on August 15, 2006. The committee members heard an overview of each proposal and was provided with a short question and answer period before ranking the projects for recommendation to the MAG Management Committee and the MAG Regional Council.

Bicycle projects:

Avondale: The project consists of a recharge facility near the Agua Fria west bank. It used to be a dump. South of this area is the Friendship Park. The project would be a bridge between the park and the recharge facility. The bridge would allow users to cross over McDowell Road. There is a mobile home park for elderly and this facility would allow access the Walmart. Dawn Coomer asked how this relates to the enhancement project. Kelly LaRosa replied that it would provide an additional access.

Gilbert: This will be the first demonstration project to use the solutions identified in the MAG Regional Bikeway Master Plan for mid-block crossings.

Mesa: The project located on Longmore would allow passage to the Light Rail station. The project is already planned in the TIP but design funding is needed.

Phoenix: Lynn Timmons reported that this project came to the city by request from a neighborhood coalition. It is along a SRP canal and would create a paved multi-use path. This is a partnership with the arts commission. Construction will come from the public arts program. Tami Ryall reported that SRP will allow artists to use old parts from their bone yards for the arts project. Brian Fellows asked how many students attend Grand Canyon College and the local schools. Ray Dovalina reported that there are about

4,000 students.

Tami Ryall proposed that each city accept \$5,000 less. Mike Normand moved to approve the list of four bicycle design projects at \$75,000 each and Dawn Coomer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Pedestrian Projects:

Avondale: Chris Hamilton explained that their proposal would create sidewalks along Van Buren that currently has dirt. There is high pedestrian traffic in that area. The street is not wide enough for a bike lane so the city wants to put in a sidewalk as the pedestrians tend to walk in the street. Brandon Forrey asked if there was enough right-of-way. Peggy Rubach suggested making the sidewalk 8-feet wide. Dawn Coomer asked if the city would be willing to take less funding for the project. The city agreed.

Buckeye: Thomas Chlebanowski reported that the project will connect the library, the park, and the aquatic center and a highschool. There are critical connections that will be ada accessible. This project has asked for funding from CMAQ and that will include more funding for planning. Dawn Coomer noted that the MAG standards request 6-foot sidewalk. Thomas Chlebanowski agreed and said that there is enough right of way for a 6-foot sidewalk. The town is also assessing performance of truncated domes.

Fountain Hills: Randy Harrelson reported that sidewalks are needed on two avenues that lead to schools, park and Boys and Girls club. This sidewalk connection also completes a loop. Mitch Foy asked if the city would accept less money for the project. Randy Harrelson agreed.

Gilbert: Tami Ryall reminded the group that this project was withdrawn last year so that other projects could be funded. The project is an older industrial center originally built without sidewalks. It was built in the early 80's. Heavily birmed landscaping will cause issues with retrofitting. Any time of the day people are walking in the street. Peggy Rubach agreed that this project has many obstacles. Brandon Forrey asked if Gilbert would consider scaling this project back. Tami Ryall agreed to accept less funding.

Mesa:

Mitch Foy explained that the street is adjacent to a citrus grove. The grove owners agreed to provide easement for this project. There is an elementary school that children walk to and from the subdivision. This is a walking boundary with no school bus service. Brandon Forrey asked if Mesa had a Safe Routes to School plan for this project. The city will follow up. Peggy Rubach asked if the street widening could also provide bike lanes. Mitch Foy said that would also be a benefit to this project. Mesa would be willing to take less money.

Wickenburg: Irene Morgan explained that the 1962 bridge will stay when the ADOT bypass occurs in Wickenburg. There is a senior mobile home park where residents could access downtown via the bridge. This provides both a shopping and social connection. The project can be broken into phases and the first phase would cost \$45,000. Tami Ryall reported that this is an excellent project for an enhancements application. This project seems to provide a critical link. Irene Morgan explained that when ADOT does the bypass, they will build sidewalks but this bridge project is far away from where the current ADOT project is located. Dawn Coomer noted that words such as park and recreation are not eligible for CMAQ funding. Only transportation elements of the project may be eligible for CMAQ funding.. Tami Ryall

pointed out that the application should be rewritten illuminating the transportation issues such as how the sidewalks will be designed as ada accessible. The application should be clearly stated that the project is a transportation project. She offered the support of many committee members. It was also recommended that the project be resubmitted in phases.

Dawn Coomer reviewed the funding requests. Tami Ryall suggested the following changes:

- Avondale's original request of \$50,000 will accept \$46,000.
- Buckeye's original request of \$24,065 will accept \$24, 000.
- Fountain Hills' original request of \$59,000 will accept \$45,000.
- Gilbert's original request of \$75,000 will accept \$50,000.
- Mesa's original request of \$40,000 will accept \$35,000.

Peggy Rubach moved to recommend approval of the projects with the revised funding and that Wickenburg resubmit their request next year. Dawn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

8. Meetings for 2006

Meetings for 2006 will be held on the third Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in the Cholla Room:

September 26, 2006 at 9:00am

October 17 and October 24, 2006

November 21, 2006

December 19, 2006